

Agency Overview

Established in 1892 the Idaho Board of Medicine has served to protect the public through licensure and regulation of medical professions. The Board was under the Department of Law Enforcement until 1949.

The Idaho Board of Medicine licenses allopathic and osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, physical therapists and physical therapy assistants, dietitians, occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants, athletic trainers, respiratory therapists and limited permit polysomnographers. The Board registers supervising and directing physicians for physician assistants and athletic trainers. The Board also registers medical interns, externs, residents and trainees in the various professions. The Board investigates complaints and provides for discipline and rehabilitation of regulated professions.

The Board defines the scope of practice for emergency medical technicians, provides representatives for advanced practice nursing advisory committee and the naturopathic formulary committee.

As a function of the courts the Board provides for pre-litigation screening panels as requirement for medical malpractice suits in Idaho. Enacted in the mid-1970's this requirement provided no additional appropriation to provide the services required.

The Board functions with six licensing boards, the committee for professional discipline and physician assistant advisory committee. The allied health boards and committees advise and make recommendations to the Board of Medicine in matters of licensure and discipline of their respective professions. The Committee on Professional Discipline makes recommendations to the Board of Medicine regarding physician discipline.

Board of Medicine members are appointed by the Governor. Committee on Professional Discipline members and allied health board members are appointed by the Board of Medicine.

The Board's offices are located on Westgate Drive in Boise. The Executive Director is hired by the Board of Medicine. The Board has an associate director, an in-house counsel, and contract prosecuting attorney.

The staff for discipline includes three quality assurance specialists, and a compliance monitor. Licensing has a licensing manager for physician licensing and a manager for allied health and one member who divides her time between licensing and pre-litigation. Pre-litigation requires one full time administrative assistant and the half time assistance mentioned earlier. One financial technician performs the bookkeeping functions for the Board. A receptionist and a part time office specialist complete the staff.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

The core functions of the Board include licensing, discipline, and pre-litigation. Statutory authority is as follows for each of the professions regulated:

Title 54

Physicians and Physician Assistants Chapter 18 54-1802. **PURPOSE.** Recognizing that the practice of medicine is a privilege granted by the state of Idaho and is not a natural right of individuals, the purpose of this chapter is to assure the public health, safety and welfare in the state by the licensure and regulation of physicians, and the exclusion of unlicensed persons from the practice of medicine.

Physical Therapists and Physical Therapy Assistants Chapter 22 54-2202. **DECLARATION OF POLICY.** To protect the public health, safety and welfare, and to provide for state administrative supervision, licensure and regulation, every person practicing or offering to practice physical therapy who meets and maintains prescribed standards of competence and conduct shall be licensed as provided in this chapter. This chapter shall be liberally construed to promote the public interest and to accomplish the purpose stated herein.

Dietitians Chapter 35 54-3501. **PURPOSE.** The legislature finds and declares that the provision of medical and therapeutic nutritional services affects the public health, safety, and welfare. The legislature further finds that it is in the public interest to aid in the provision of medical and therapeutic nutritional services of high quality to the people of Idaho. To aid in fulfilling these purposes, this chapter provides for the licensure and regulation of dietitians within the state of Idaho.

Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants Chapter 37 54-3701. **LEGISLATIVE INTENT.** In order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare; to promote the highest degree of professional conduct on the part of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants; and to assure the availability of occupational therapy services of high quality to persons in need of such services, it is the purpose of this act to provide for the regulation of persons offering occupational therapy services to the public.

Athletic Trainers Chapter 39 54-3901. **LEGISLATIVE INTENT.** In order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare, to promote the highest degree of professional conduct on the part of athletic trainers, and to assure the availability of athletic trainer services of high quality to persons in need of such services, it is the purpose of this chapter to provide for the registration of persons offering athletic trainers services to the public

Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnography Permits Chapter 43 54-4302. **LEGISLATIVE INTENT.** In order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare; to promote the highest degree of professional conduct on the part of persons providing respiratory care to the public; and to assure the availability of respiratory care services of high quality to persons in need of such services, it is the purpose of the provisions of this chapter to provide for the licensure and regulation of persons offering respiratory care services to the public.

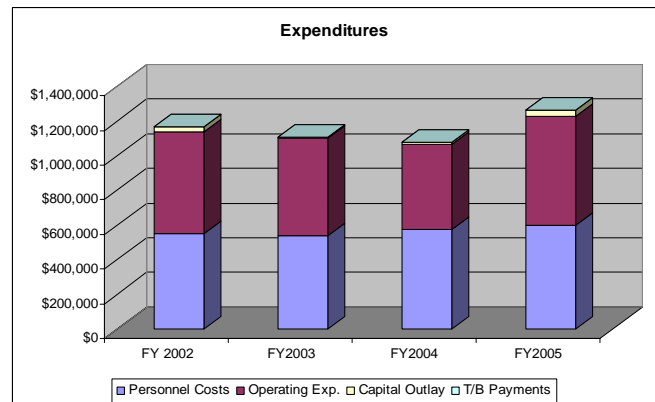
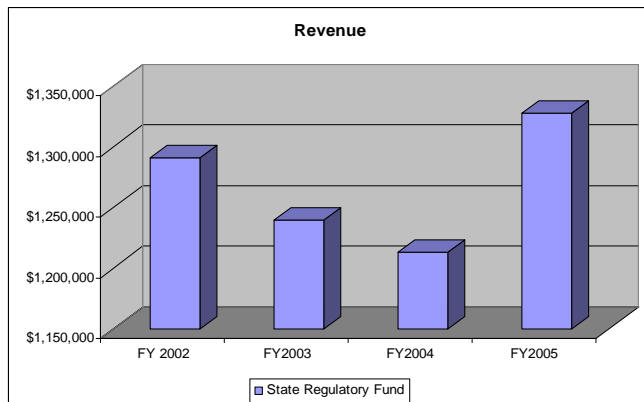
Medical Malpractice 6-1001. The Idaho state board of medicine, in alleged malpractice cases involving claims for damages against physicians and surgeons practicing in the state of Idaho or against licensed acute care general hospitals operating in the state of Idaho, is directed to cooperate in providing a hearing panel in the nature of a special civil grand jury and procedure for prelitigation consideration of personal injury and wrongful death claims for damages arising out of the provision of or alleged failure to provide hospital or medical care in the state of Idaho, which proceedings shall be informal and nonbinding, but nonetheless compulsory as a condition precedent to litigation. Proceedings conducted or maintained under the authority of this act shall at all times be subject to disclosure according to chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code. Formal rules of evidence shall not apply and all such proceedings shall be expeditious and informal.

Title IV of Public Law 99-660- The Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986-requires state licensing boards, hospitals and other entities to report certain licensing and discipline actions to a national database.

Public Law 104-191- The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996- requires the reporting and disclosing of certain actions to combat fraud and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
State Regulatory Fund	\$1,291,200	\$1,239,700	\$1,213,400	\$1,328,000
Total	\$1,291,200	\$1,239,700	\$1,213,400	\$1,328,000
Expenditure	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Personnel Costs	\$550,800	\$540,600	\$573,700	\$597,500
Operating Expenditures	\$586,300	\$558,600	\$491,200	\$629,800
Capital Outlay	\$30,800	\$7,800	\$13,500	\$35,600
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$1,167,900	\$1,107,000	\$1,078,400	\$1,262,900



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	CY 2002	CY 2003	CY 2004	CY 2005
Complaint Investigation	173	140	184	198 YTD*
Licensing of six health professions	6684	6782	7284	8101 YTD*
Pre-litigation screening panels	158	140	110	103 YTD*
On Line Public Information/Licensee service				

*Year to date as of November 1, 2005

Performance Highlights

The number of complaint investigations increased over 41% in the last two years. Surrounding states average 30-35 cases per investigator. With the addition of another investigator, Idaho Board of Medicine's three investigators carry 60-65 cases per investigator.

The Board of Medicine implemented on-line renewals for all its professions in 2005 and continues to offer on-line license verification, discipline and board action information, and information for licensees and consumers.

The Idaho Board of Medicine is a participant in Federation of State Medical Boards project to enhance physician license portability and reduce barriers to telehealth services while providing for public safety.

The Idaho Board of Medicine received recognition from Administrators in Medicine (AIM) for the "Best of the Boards" award with an honorable mention for the Board's "proactive investigations" in 2004.

For More Information Contact

Nancy Kerr
 Medicine, Board of
 280 N 8th Suite 200
 PO Box 83720
 Boise, ID 83720-0058
 Phone: (208) 327-7000
 E-mail: nkerr@bom.state.id.us